



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

September 30, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Pai:

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Department of Education, I am writing to nominate Julie Tritt Schell to the board of directors of the Universal Service Administrative Company as a schools' representative. Julie has been the Pennsylvania E-rate Coordinator since the program's first days and has worked earnestly with and on behalf of the Commonwealth and our public and private schools and libraries, to ensure they are well-trained, engaged, compliant and successful E-rate applicants. In addition to serving as our State E-rate Coordinator, she also served as our State Director of Educational Technology, where she implemented several highly successful workforce development partnerships with Microsoft, 3Com, Oracle, and Cisco, in addition to managing more than \$45 million annually in federal and state educational technology funding.

Julie also serves as Co-Chair of the State E-rate Coordinators' Alliance (SECA), a position she has held for nearly 20 years. In this capacity, she has daily communication with E-rate officials in nearly every state, gaining insights into the challenges faced by all types of applicants – rural, urban, large, small - which makes her uniquely prepared to represent schools on the USAC board.

We believe that the board would benefit greatly from the perspectives Ms. Schell has gained from serving at the state education department level, as well as her constant communication with school and library applicants, and state E-rate Coordinators from 46 other states. We know first-hand her depth of knowledge of the program, her understanding of school fiscal and procurement operations, and school technology needs. Because of her outstanding credentials and expertise, we strongly encourage the Commission to appoint Ms. Tritt Schell to the USAC board as the schools' representative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Pedro A. Rivera".

Pedro A. Rivera
Secretary of Education